

Update
on
Domestic Violence
Issues
in the
Military



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Why Do We Still Focus on the Issue?

National Domestic Violence Awareness Month

By THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
A PROCLAMATION

http://mfrc.calib.com/domestic_violence/

Military Concerned About Domestic Violence Cases Involving Soldiers
Three Cases Reported In Fort Bragg Since Beginning Of July

WRAL.com

Raleigh-Durham-Fayetteville, NC

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Fort Bragg Murders
Raise Questions about Military
Culture and Domestic Violence

The newsletter of the Vermont Network Against Domestic Violence &
Sexual Assault

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE REPORT™
LAW • PREVENTION • PROTECTION • ENFORCEMENT • TREATMENT •
HEALTH

A Considerable Service: An Advocate's Introduction to
Domestic Violence and the Military
by Christine Hansen, Executive Director, The Miles Foundation © 2001

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Outline of Instruction



- Department of Defense Task Force on Domestic Violence (DTFDV)
 - ✓ Origin
 - ✓ Background
 - ✓ Purpose
 - ✓ Goal
 - ✓ First Year Report
 - ✓ Second Year Report
 - ✓ Third Year Report
- DOD Response
- Where the Services are Now

DTFDV

Origin



- In January 1999, *60 Minutes* aired a program very critical of domestic violence in the military
- The National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for FY 00 (PL 106-65), § 591 established the DTFDV

DTFDV ***Background***



- 24 Members appointed by SecDef (March 24, 2000)
 - ✓ 12 senior members from DoD
 - ✓ 12 subject matter experts from private sector
- 10 Staff members
 - ✓ Executive Director
 - ✓ Deputy Director
 - ✓ 4 work group leaders (3 military, 1 civilian)
 - ✓ 4 administrative support
- TF required to submit 1st report NLT 12 months from date of appointment

DTFDV

Purpose Of Task Force



- Review and evaluate current programs and policies associated with domestic violence in the Department of Defense

DTFDV ***Goals***



- Provide recommendations that improve domestic violence programs within DoD
- Assist the Department in implementing the Task Force recommendations
- Link the military and civilian communities to improve, strengthen, and coordinate domestic violence prevention and intervention efforts for service members and their families



DTFDV

First Year Report

(1 of 2)

- First report submitted with 66 core recommendations in following areas:
 - ✓ Community Collaboration
 - ✓ Education and Training
 - ✓ Offender Accountability
 - ✓ Victim Safety



DTFDV

First Year Report

(2 of 2)

- DoD sent report to SASC and HASC with comments, 19 November 2001, disagreed with 3 recommendations:
 - ✓ Study whether/not DIBRS replace FAP CR
 - ✓ Expand required reporting elements of FAP database to capture Sec. 594 data, if DIBRS delay becoming fully opnl
 - ✓ First responder ID of “primary aggressor” and “real victim”

DTFDV

Second Year Report

(1 of 2)



- The TF provided follow-up and implementation assistance on recommendations from the 1st report
- Included an assessment and recommendations specific to overseas
- Provided proposed definition of domestic violence



DTFDV

Second Year Report

(2 of 2)

- Of the 86 recommendations, 24 are follow-on from the first report, and 62 are new. In all, SEC DEF:
 - ✓ Agrees with 16 follow-on and 42 new recommendations, totaling 58
 - ✓ Agrees to study 6 follow-on and 9 new recommendations, totaling 15
 - ✓ Disagrees with 1 follow-on and 9 new recommendations, totaling 10
 - ✓ Takes no position with respect to 1 follow-on and 2 new recommendations, totaling 3, b/c not directed to DoD



DTFDV

Third Year Report

■ 13 Recommendations

- ✓ ID, evaluate, and prioritize all resources for DV programs
- ✓ Rvw and assess progress of implementation of proposals
- ✓ Protocols
- ✓ Replace CRC w/ DV Assessment and Intervention Team
- ✓ Nondisclosure Policy
- ✓ DV Conceptual Model (prevention, severity of abuse, fatality rvws)
- ✓ Training

Issues the TF Found Challenging



- Establishing some level of confidentiality for victims
- Shift FAP focus from “treating” offenders to “assisting” victims
- Identifying effective diversion/treatment program(s) for offenders according to their level of involvement
- Establishing data collection requirement (DIBRS/Central Registry)

Issues the TF Found Challenging - continued



- Review/Revise CRC process
- Empowering commanders to hold offenders accountable
- Setting the stage with other agencies to leverage their domestic violence prevention programs
- Creating an effective domestic violence prevention program

Bottom Lines from the DTFDV



- Critical to emphasize that domestic violence will not be tolerated
- Victim safety must be paramount
- Family Advocacy Programs must be more victim focused
- Essential to establish some level of confidentiality for victims
- OSD FAP staff reflects level of importance



Bottom Lines from the DTFDV - continued

- Commanders need to hold offenders accountable
- CRC process needs revamped
- Education/Training needs to be standardized and emphasized
- Reporting vehicle
DIBRS/Central Registry

Where the Services are Now



- Reviewing the Third Year Report
- Army G-1: HR DVTF – Final Report
- Army G-3: Interplay of DV issues in Deployment Cycle Processing Plan
- Air Force
- Navy



Questions